

**February 26, 2003**  
**MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting**

The meeting began at 8:00 a.m.

Bob Kober opened the meeting by stating that MCA was making a concerted effort to clean up its distribution process on an individual basis as well as the MCA as a group. Bob also informed the group that supplemental specifications 551, 409, and 559 have all been commented on by MCA. Bob then handed the floor over to Mark Wissinger to talk about new business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Traffic Control.** Mark told the group that there would be a Traffic Control meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup>, which is the day of the March letting. Mark asked that all agenda items be received no later than March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**2. GRADE S.** Mark explained there would be a meeting February 27<sup>th</sup>, after the letting, to go over the Grade S Volumetric Special Provision.

**3. WATER FOR DUST CONTROL.** Mark then talked about Water for Dust Control. There have been a number of large change orders for this item. The level of documentation for this item has been inadequate in general, and MDT does not have sufficient staff to track this item under current specification requirements. Mark asked for proposals on how these quantities can be accurately tracked and documented. Bob Kober responded by saying that MCA will compile their comments and have them ready for next months meeting.

**4. Detailed Drawings.** MDT explained that a new process would be proposed for the distribution of detailed drawings. MDT asked MCA if they would be able to print the detailed drawings. MCA felt that the detailed drawings should still be distributed until the contractors have a chance to acquire printers capable of printing out the detailed drawings. MDT will comment on this at next months meeting.

**5. Waterborne Paint.** MCA came to MDT with various concerns dealing with the Waterborne Paint specification. MCA stated that one problem is that the specification allows for no tolerance in application. As a solution to this, MCA felt that the specification should be changed to allow for +/- 1 mm in amounts of paint applied. Another issue for MCA was the temperature limitations in the specification. MCA explained that a possible solution to the problem would be to rewrite the specification to allow the contractors to use a low VOC solvent based paint in colder weather. MDT will comment at the next meeting.

**6. Base Course Sampling.** MCA requested consideration of an option to sample base course from the belt during pug mill operations. They also requested a commitment to a specific test result turnaround time. MCA suggested a turnaround time of 4 hours. MDT will comment on this at the March meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Changes to the Ride Specification.** Matt Strzich was able to attend the meeting and responded to MCA's questions regarding this specification. Matt explained that the intent of this specification is to pay a substantial incentive for a superior ride. However, if 10% of the project exhibits a poor ride, with deductions, no incentive will be applied and only disincentives apply. MCA felt there was still some ambiguity that exists with the present language in the specification and strongly recommended a rewrite in the language. Matt stated that he would have better language in the specification by the next meeting.

**2. Submittal Requirements in Contracts.** Mark Wissinger presented a table of Contractor Submittals. Mark elaborated on the table by saying there are 129 submittal requirements in the standard specifications. Of those, 47 requirements were deleted and 31 were revised. MDT will use the table to take precedence over the standard and supplemental specifications. MDT will move ahead with this and get some comments from MCA by the next meeting so this submittal form can be implemented for the April letting. MDT welcomes any and all comments regarding existing submittals, with an eye towards streamlining this process wherever possible.

**3. Bridge Pile Specifications.** MDT has rewritten this specification due to comments and it will be redistributed for comment. This supplemental specification should be out for comment the week following the February MCA meeting.

**4. Final Estimates.** The discussion included the explanation of the actual process used to come up with the final quantities. Based on MCA's comments, MDT is reviewing the process

and will comment at the next meeting.

**5. Concrete Acceptance.** MDT has received all the comments dealing with the concrete acceptance supplemental specification. Before the MCA meeting, MDT had met with FHWA and found that the concrete acceptance process will need some revision. All parts of this supplemental specification not dealing with the dispute/resolution process will be moved ahead as planned. The partial implementation will be redistributed for a short comment period before the next meeting.

**6. Heavy Duty Cattle Guard Bases.** MDT is working on the detailed drawings for the Heavy Duty Cast-Place-Place Cattle Guard Bases. MDT expects these will be completed by May.

**7. Standard Specification 108.03.** MCA is going to review this specification again. All comments are in. MDT will comment at the next meeting.

**8. Petrographic Testing of Aggregate Sources.** MDT had not made any progress since the last MCA meeting. MDT will be rethinking the process within the next month. MDT will have more information and a solid direction to take by the next meeting.

**9. MDT's websight modifications.** Mark Wissinger gave an update on establishing Project Specific Question and Answer (Q&A) on the Department's website. MCA asked when this would be accessible. MDT indicated that it should be implemented by the April letting. This process is in place for testing with the March advertisement. Please go to the following website to view the site; [www.mdt.state.mt.us/cntrct/contract.htm](http://www.mdt.state.mt.us/cntrct/contract.htm).

**General Discussion.** A concern of MCA was the timeliness of test results. Contractors have been getting deducts on work that had been done for several months. As a result, MCA felt that a 90-day test period should be implemented. MDT felt this was a legitimate concern and will comment at the next meeting.

Phase construction was the last topic covered in the meeting. MCA was wondering if it would be possible to split the dirt runs to go along with the prescribed method of construction. Once again, MDT will review these concerns and tackle this at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be **March 26, 2003**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the **MCA Office**.

cc:	Darrin Grenfell, FHWA	Bob Kober	District Construction Engrs.
	Joel Marshik	Suzi Althof	
	James Walther	Carl Peil	
	Mark Wissinger	Scott Barnes	
	Matt Strizich	Kent Barnes	
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